

drawing together of the scar tissue. The temperature has been down to 98° on four occasions, but is to-day 102°.

November 30th. Improvement still maintained, patient gaining strength. There are no moist rales to be heard now in the chest. The temperature during the last week has not been higher than 100° and not lower than 98.4°. The voice is, however, still husky.

This case I do not pretend to call anything but greatly benefited in a short space of time, which to anyone who had seen him when he was ordered home from a sanatorium appears most striking, and I quote it as an excessively bad case which is now being satisfactorily treated, I might give a few more instances but these two are fair examples of those I have under treatment at the present time; and will close by saying again I regret, owing to many circumstances, I am not able to quote several cases of cure which have come under my notice, but not under my individual professional care.

[We are informed by Mr. M. A. Alabone that "mollueine" is supplied to him by Mr. J. Wells Wood, M.P.S., of Stoke Newington and South Hackney, and is described as a mixture obtained by the action of superheated steam on fats, practically a glycerine of lower specific gravity than the ordinary B.P. product, and that "viscidine" is also obtained from Mr. J. W. Wood, and is a preparation of hydrocarbon oil. Mr. M. A. Alabone also informs us that "King's emulsion" contains 50 per cent. of pure cod-liver oil, with lactophosphites, and that he believes that it can be obtained through any chemist.]

THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

THIS Act, which comes into force on January 1st, 1902, consolidates all the previous statute law relating to factories and workshops, and introduces certain important amendments. As there is nothing in the Act as published to show what parts are new and what are old, it may be useful to point out which of its provisions are new, paying special attention to those which are of interest to the medical profession.

The Act is divided into ten parts, of which the first relates to

HEALTH AND SAFETY.

Health.—All the provisions of the older Acts with regard to the sanitary condition and overcrowding of factories, workshops, and workplaces are here reproduced. It will be remembered that the Factory Acts of 1891 and 1895 made provision for the cubical space which should be allowed in factories and workshops accommodating a certain number of workers. These sections are re-enacted, but it is now provided by Section III (3) of the new Act that if a workshop or workplace (not being a domestic workshop) is occupied by day as a workshop and by night as a sleeping place, the Secretary of State may increase or otherwise modify the amount of cubical space prescribed. If the Home Secretary is satisfied that the provisions of the Act and of the law relating to public health, so far as it affects factories, workshops, and workplaces are not carried out by any district council, he may authorise an inspector to take the necessary proceedings for the enforcement of the Act. The duty of attending to the sanitary condition of workshops has always been imposed, in the first instance, upon the district council, and consequently upon the medical officer of health, by the Public Health Acts. That duty is now extended to factories and workplaces, and default on the part of the district council may in future be remedied by immediate action on the part of an inspector, who may recover the expenses incurred by him from the district council in default (Section IV). The air in factories must be kept at a reasonable temperature by some method which will not interfere with its purity. The Secretary of State may require thermometers to be kept in convenient places (Section VI). Ventilation, which was formerly required only in factories where gases and vapours were generated to an injurious extent, and in a few other cases, is now compulsory in every factory and workshop (Section VII). The standard of ventilation is to be prescribed by the Secretary of State (Section VII (i)). The cost of providing suitable means of ventilation may be apportioned between owner and occupier. Section VIII provides for the draining of floors in places where processes are carried on which render the floor liable to wet.

Accidents.—There are no new provisions with regard to the investigation of accidents. Section XXXII of the Act of 1878, which provided that a certifying surgeon should in certain

circumstances make a full investigation as to the nature and cause of death or injury caused by an accident, is reproduced in Section XX of the new Act.

FITNESS FOR EMPLOYMENT.

Part II of the Act relates to employment, and contains a number of provisions dealing with hours and holidays. The only portion of this part of the Act which interests the medical profession is that relating to "fitness for employment." By Section LXI it is provided that the occupier of a factory or workshop shall not knowingly allow a woman or girl to be employed therein within four weeks after she has given birth to a child. By a curious oversight, this salutary provision was not extended to "girls" in the former Acts. What is still more singular, no alteration of the law was discussed in the House of Commons, the words "or girl" being added in the drafting office.

Now, as formerly, a certificate of fitness is necessary before a child or young person can work full time in any factory or workshop (see Section LXIII). The necessary certificate of fitness must be drawn up by the certifying surgeon of the district, and must be to the effect that the surgeon has personally examined the child or young person, and that he is satisfied, by the production of a certificate or otherwise, that the child is of the required age. So much of the law is old, but it is provided by Section LXIII (5) of the new Act that the certificate of the surgeon may be qualified by conditions as to the work on which a child or young person is fit to be employed. Further, the surgeon is to have the same powers as an inspector for the purpose of examining any process in which a child or a young person presented to him for the grant of a certificate is proposed.

EDUCATION.

Part III, which is a reproduction of those parts of the older Acts which relate to education, contains nothing new.

DANGEROUS AND UNHEALTHY INDUSTRIES.

Part IV.—In this department of the law, relating to factories, there have been few changes which affect the medical men who take part in the administration of that law. By Sections LXXIX and LXXXV, however, the Secretary of State is empowered to make regulations with regard to such trades, processes, or industries as he may consider to be dangerous or injurious to health, life, or limb. The determination of the question whether a particular industry is dangerous to health will probably fall upon the medical profession.

With regard to home work, provisions for its regulation are to be found in Sections CVII to CXV. Formerly if it was found that any such place was injurious to health, it became the duty of an inspector to serve notice in writing to that effect upon the occupier of the factory, after which the occupier was compelled to refrain from giving out work to be done in that place. In future the notice above referred to may, by Section CVIII of the new Act, be given by the district council, which means that new duties will be imposed on the medical officer of health. It is added, however, that the section shall not apply except in the case of persons employed in such classes of work as the Home Secretary may specify.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

New and important provisions are made in order to prevent the spread of infectious disease in domestic workshops. By Section CX it is provided that, if the inmate of a house is suffering from an infectious disease required to be notified under the law for the time being in force in relation to the notification of infectious diseases, the district council may make an order forbidding any work to be given to any person in that house. In a case of urgency, the powers conferred on the district council by the section may be exercised by any two or more members of the council acting on the advice of the medical officer of health. The work to which the section is to apply is the making, cleaning, washing, etc., of wearing apparel. It would seem, therefore, that the chief difficulty attendant upon the non-admission of laundries to the provisions of the Factory Acts is overcome by this section, as the sending of any clothes to be washed in a house where there is infectious disease may be forbidden by a district council.

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORY ACTS.

Part VIII, which relates to the administration of the Factory Act, comprises, *inter alia*, regulations with regard to certifying surgeons (Sections CXXII to CXXIV). The provisions of the Act which relate to certifying surgeons are merely a re-enactment (Sections XXXII, LXXI, LXXII, and LXXIV) of the Act of 1878, and Section XLVI of the Act of 1895. Those Acts provided that, subject to such regulations as might be made by the Secretary of State, an inspector might appoint a sufficient number of duly registered medical practitioners to be certifying surgeons under the Act. The older Acts made provision for the absence of a certifying surgeon by enacting that where there was no surgeon within three miles his work could be done by the medical officer of health. Section CXXIII of the Act now provides that, where there is no certifying surgeon for any factory, the Poor-law medical officer for the district in which the factory or workshop is situate shall act for the time being as the certifying surgeon for that factory or workshop. Another alteration has been made with regard to the fees of a certifying surgeon. It was provided by Section LXXIV of the Act of 1878 that the occupier of a factory might deduct the certifying surgeon's fee, or any part thereof, from the wages of the person for whom the certificate was granted. This was specially repealed in the Amendment Bill of the present year. The fees of certifying surgeons must still, however, be paid by the occupier of the factory, either upon a scale fixed by the Home Secretary or in pursuance of an agreement between him and the surgeon (see Section CXXIV).

REGISTERS AND RETURNS.

Sections CXXVII to CXXXII, which relate to notices, registers, and returns, contain some new provisions of interest to medical officer of health. Thus it is provided by Section CXXXII that the medical officer of health shall in his annual report to the Council report on the administration of the Act in workshops and workplaces. It was formerly the duty of the medical officer of health to give notice to an inspector whenever he found any woman, young person, or child employed in a workshop. This duty is now restricted to cases where there is no abstract of the Act fixed up in the workshop (Section CXXXIII).

OPERATION OF THE ACT.

The Act is extended to Crown factories and workshops by Section CL, subject to a dispensing power which may be exercised by the Home Secretary in times of emergency. Another important point is the inclusion in the definition of the word factory, electrical stations, "that is to say, any premises or that part of any premises in which electrical energy is generated or transformed."

LITERARY NOTES.

THE *Medical Chronicle* for September, which we only lately received, contains an interesting account, with a portrait, of the life and work of the late Professor W. Kühne, of Heidelberg, by Professor Stirling. According to him, Kühne was one of the greatest and most distinguished of physiologists since the death of Brücke, Helmholtz, Ludwig, and Du Bois-Reymond. He was a many-sided man, and used every available method of research. His name will ever remain associated with three great fields of physiological inquiry—the physiology of muscle, and of the retina and the chemistry of digestion. His Croonian Lecture on the Origin and Cause of Vital Movement, given before the Royal Society in 1888, contains an epitome of his own work on the relation of nerve to muscle. Kühne was a man of richly-stored mind. He had travelled much and gave much attention to art. He was a man of genial presence and sparkling wit, and his hospitality and kindness were unbounded. He gave directions that his body should be cremated to an accompaniment of the first part of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

The paper entitled Was Cornaro Right? read at the annual meeting by Dr. Van Someren has excited a good deal of discussion. John Abernethy's opinion on the subject may therefore be worth quoting as being appropriate, if not altogether edifying. We take it from the *St. Thomas's Hospital Gazette* for November, where it is given among some examples of the

famous surgeon's method of lecturing culled from early numbers of the *Lancet*. In speaking of the results of disturbed digestion, as when a man "overcharges his stomach with all the cursed mixtures which a vitiated appetite can invent," Abernethy delivered himself as follows:

When patients apply to me, and I see that their complaints are chiefly of the nature I have been describing, I tell them that I am no physician, and I offend them stoutly when I tell them that they have their health in their own keeping. If a man were to do as Cornaro did, he would be rewarded for it by a long and happy life. Cornaro was given over by his physicians at the age of 35; he saw that there was not the least chance of recovery if he continued to swallow the trash they were in the habit of giving him, and that there was no good in putting food into his stomach if his stomach could not digest it. What did it do there? Why, it played the very devil with Cornaro's guts. "So," said he, "I dropped the plan pursued by my physicians, and adopted a regimen of my own....." He went down to the grave at the advanced age of 105, as the account is given by his niece, who was a nun at Padua.

The *Journal of Medical Research* is the title of a new periodical devoted, as its name indicates, to the publication of research work in any branch of medicine. It is controlled by the recently-founded American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists, and will contain the proceedings of that body. It will appear under the editorial direction of Dr. H. C. Ernst, whose aim it will be to publish the results of original investigation as rapidly as material accumulates. Each number will contain about 50 pages. Volumes will consist of ten numbers.

Dr. Paul de Réglé, a well-known French physician and Orientalist, is finishing a work entitled, *Au Pays de l'Espionnage, Les Sultans Mourad et Abd-ul-Hamid II.*

A new monthly journal entitled the *Fraternal Medical Examiner* has made its appearance in Omaha. It is edited by Dr. Ira W. Porter of that place. It is specially devoted to the medical affairs of fraternal beneficiary orders, but life insurance in general also falls within its scope.

Mr. Elliot Stock has just published a work entitled *Reading Abbey*, by Jamieson B. Hurry, M.A., M.D., of Reading, formerly of St. John's College, Cambridge. The following titles of the various chapters will briefly indicate the scope of the work.

- Chapter I. The Abbey: Foundation; Precincts; Church.
- " II. The Abbey (continued): Monastic Buildings; Leper House; Hospitium of St. John; Infirmary.
- " III. The History of the Abbey.
- " IV. The Martyrdom of Hugh Cook Faringdon.
- " V. The Struggle between the Abbey and the Guild Merchant.
- " VI. The Establishment of the Abbey.
- " VII. The Endowments, Privileges, and Revenues of the Abbey.
- " VIII. The Arms, Seals, and Coinage of the Abbey.
- " IX. The Library Belonging to the Abbey.
- " X. The Relics, Plate, and other Treasures belonging to the Abbey.
- " XI. The Fate of the Abbey after the Dissolution.

The work is embellished by many illustrations of the locality, as well as by facsimiles, plans, etc.

The *American Journal of Anatomy*, of which the first number is before us, has, according to the prospectus, been founded to collect into one place, and present in a worthy manner, the many researches from American investigators now scattered through many publications at home and abroad. Many aspects of comparative anatomy, embryology, histology, and cytology are so intimately bound up with the problems of human anatomy that these subjects will be included within the scope of the new journal. It will be the aim of the *American Journal of Anatomy* to recognise this close natural relationship between the various branches of the science, and to publish results of the best original work of American students of anatomy. The Editorial Board consists of the following gentlemen: Lewellys F. Barker, University of Chicago; Thomas Dwight, Harvard University; Simon H. Gage, Cornell University; G. Carl Huber, University of Michigan; George S. Huntington, Columbia University; Franklin P. Mall, Johns Hopkins University; Charles S. Minot, Harvard University; George A. Piersol, University of Pennsylvania; Henry McE. Knower, Secretary, Johns Hopkins University. The *Journal* is published at Baltimore, and will appear quarterly. The first number contains among other contributors a paper on the intralobular framework of the human spleen by Dr. Preston Kies of the University of Chicago, and studies on the neuroglia, by Dr. G. Carl Huber of the University of Michigan. The *Journal* is beautifully printed, and the execution of the illustrations is beyond praise.